9/2/2011

ADDPC RFGA Grant Summary – Applications Not Recommended for Funding

An outside evaluation team made of five (5) professionals, met twice to discuss and evaluate proposals received under the grant solicitation, ADDPC FFY-10-1112-00-A /B /C. Evaluation Members evaluated each proposal based on three criteria: 1). Program Methodology based on the Scope of Work, 2). Organizational Capacity and Qualifications of Staff, and 3). Budget and Match requirements.

The Evaluation Committee were selected based on their expertise and familiarity in working with persons with developmental disabilities and their families, and must be capable of providing objective feedback on the content of the proposals.

The following applications received are not recommended for funding:

RFGA – A: Self Advocacy Planning and Support Project Southwest Autism Research & Resource Center; Requesting \$16,915.

The proposal from SARRC was to provide partial self-advocacy services to persons with developmental disabilities by partnering with effective self-advocates on both local and national basis to increase the number of local self-advocates equipped with leadership skills. They plan on recruiting 10-15 persons with developmental disabilities to participate, implement a program, and hold a full day summit at the conclusion.

Weaknesses in application include the following:

No rural focus. No collaboration identified. Not tied to any organization for training. Cultural competency was not addressed. Outreach to target population was not addressed. Community change project is not identified. Difficult to determine what their target audience will learn from the training. No parameters discussed on the type of training. Required timeline of activities was inadequate. Applicant did not describe in detail the complete methodology per the RFGA. Lack of program sustainability. Experience of staff is with young children with Autism. Proposed staff does not have experience in self-advocacy, as required in RFGA. No References provided. Applicant did not provide sufficient information in both requested dollars and in match to determine reasonableness and cost effectiveness. Applicant budget request is small and shows no long term sustainability. Budget concerns regarding justification of the cost of summit with the low amount requested in supplies and the lack of target audience. Indirect Costs were high with no justification provided as to how the percentage was determined. Budget as presented could not support methodology, as the proposed methodology did not address the RFGA Scope of Work/Tasks.

RFGA – B: Wellness Education and Prevention Project University of Arizona, Sonoran UCEDD; Requesting\$113,662

Sonoran UCEDD proposed a three pronged project to increase wellness and prevention for youth and adults with developmental disabilities. The proposed project focused on the following: 1. To provide education, one-on-one assistance, and long range wellness/prevention plans to at least 25 individuals (living on a tribal community) with developmental disabilities and their families/caregivers; 2. To provide a semester long interdisciplinary training experience e for health science students in wellness/prevention care and needs of people with developmental disabilities resulting in the development of lon term sustainable knowledge; 3. To develop an on-line AZ health, wellness and prevention resources for adolescents and adults with developmental disabilities and their families/caregivers and providers

Weaknesses in the application include the following:

Low target number (25 people with DD will be targeted). Applicant did not clarify how literature review will be used in program development and/or implementation. Lack of ongoing funding from the university impeded the health website, yet applicant did not clarify how website will be updated once grants funds are not available, and there is little information on the website promotion, how the information will be measured, developed, and outreach to 1000 families/consumers. The health education component to tribal families is not family centered or person centered. It appears the methodology is geared towards teaching students for one semester and is lacks input from persons with developmental disabilities and their families. Training the students is one semester focus and there is not long term sustainability. Applicant provided little detail to how program evaluation will be consistent with the various teaching curriculums. Each component lacks long term sustainability and outcome evaluation. Requested amount is excessive. Most of the funds is for (professors) salaries and for ERE. Various budget items did not add up. Methodology does not support the number of staff requested in budget.

RFGA – C: Self-Advocacy Development Project Southwest Institute for Families; Requesting \$49,500

Southwest Institute for Families proposed an online application system through their YAKKIT.org website to provide individuals with developmental disabilities and their families to participate in conferences, workshops and other training activities that will increase their knowledge and ability to become effective self-advocates.

Weaknesses in the application include the following:

Application was deemed Non-Responsive, as they failed to address most of the requirements in the RFGA, including various forms as part of their application.

Application showed a lack of detail in the methodology, including meeting the specific tasks as listed in the scope of work; lack of detail in the implementation plan; no target number or method for outreach identified, no collaboration efforts. Budget states that stipends will be given out to for training, no mention of how to account for dollars. Budget lacks specifics.